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U.S. History  
History-Social  
Science Standard  
11.11.5.



# Many Voices, Many Visions: Analyzing Contemporary Environmental Issues

## **California Education and the Environment Initiative**

Approved by the California State Board of Education, 2010

### **The Education and the Environment Initiative Curriculum is a cooperative endeavor of the following entities:**

California Environmental Protection Agency  
California Natural Resources Agency  
California State Board of Education  
California Department of Education  
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

### **Key Partners:**

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### **Office of Education and the Environment**

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## **Lesson 1**    Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

- 1    Factors in Decision Making ..... 2

## **Lesson 2**    Our Public Lands: Conserving Resources and Preserving Natural Systems

None required for this lesson.

## **Lesson 3**    Our Public Lands: Assessing Costs and Benefits

- 2    The Language of Cost-Benefit Analysis ..... 3

## **Lesson 4**    Roots of Controversy

- 3    Controversy Analysis Model ..... 4  
4    Healthy Forests Initiative Analysis ..... 5  
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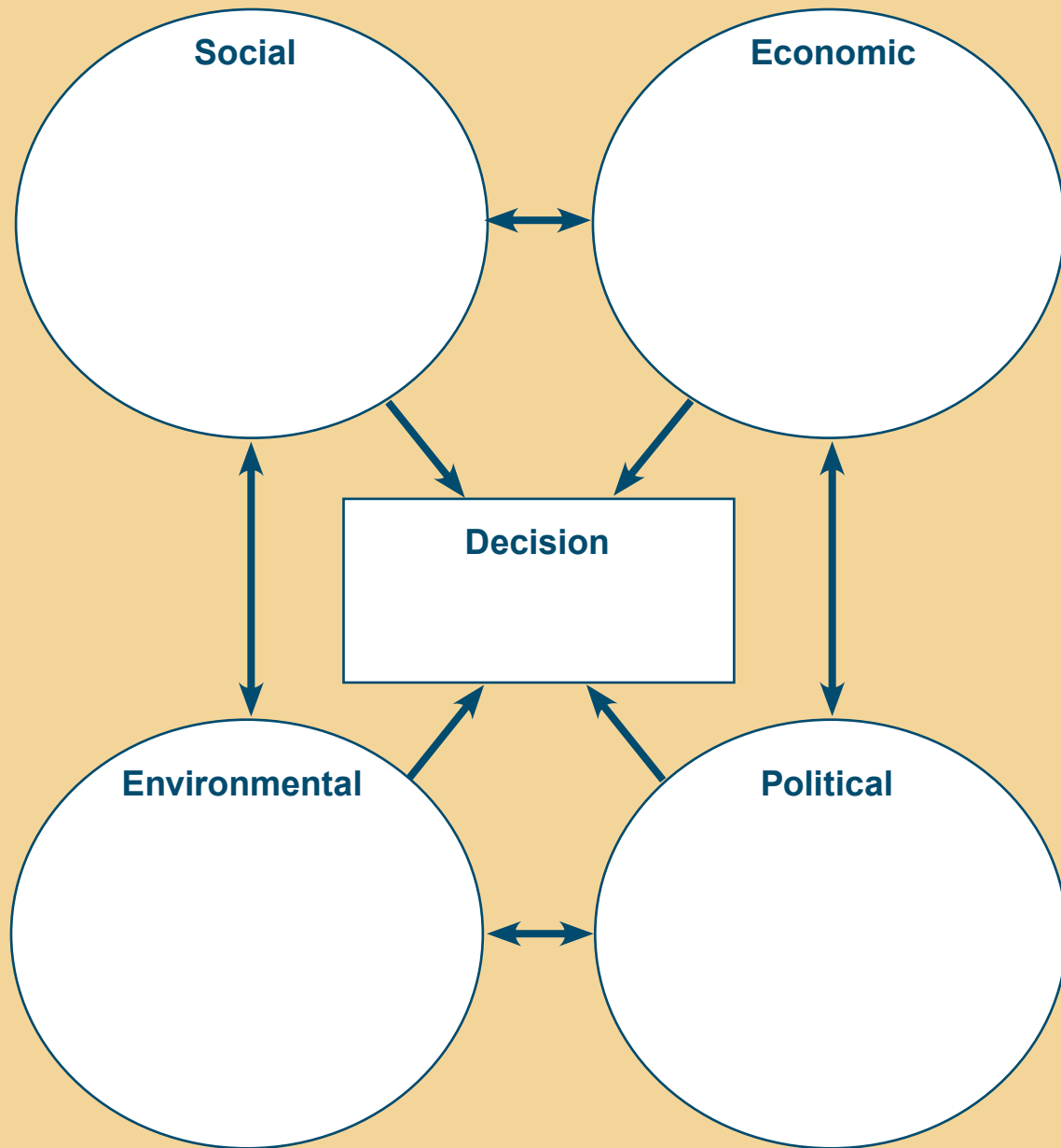
## **Lesson 5**    Regulations and Rights

None required for this lesson.

## **Lesson 6**    The Role of Advocacy in a Democracy

- 7    Advocacy in the Redwoods ..... 8

## VA #1 Factors in Decision Making



## VA #2 The Language of Cost-Benefit Analysis

**Benefit:** Something that is viewed as helpful, useful, or otherwise desirable. Some benefits are direct and others indirect.

**Cost:** The money, time, effort, loss, or sacrifice made to obtain something or achieve a goal.

**Opportunity Cost:** The value of something that is given up when choosing one thing over another.

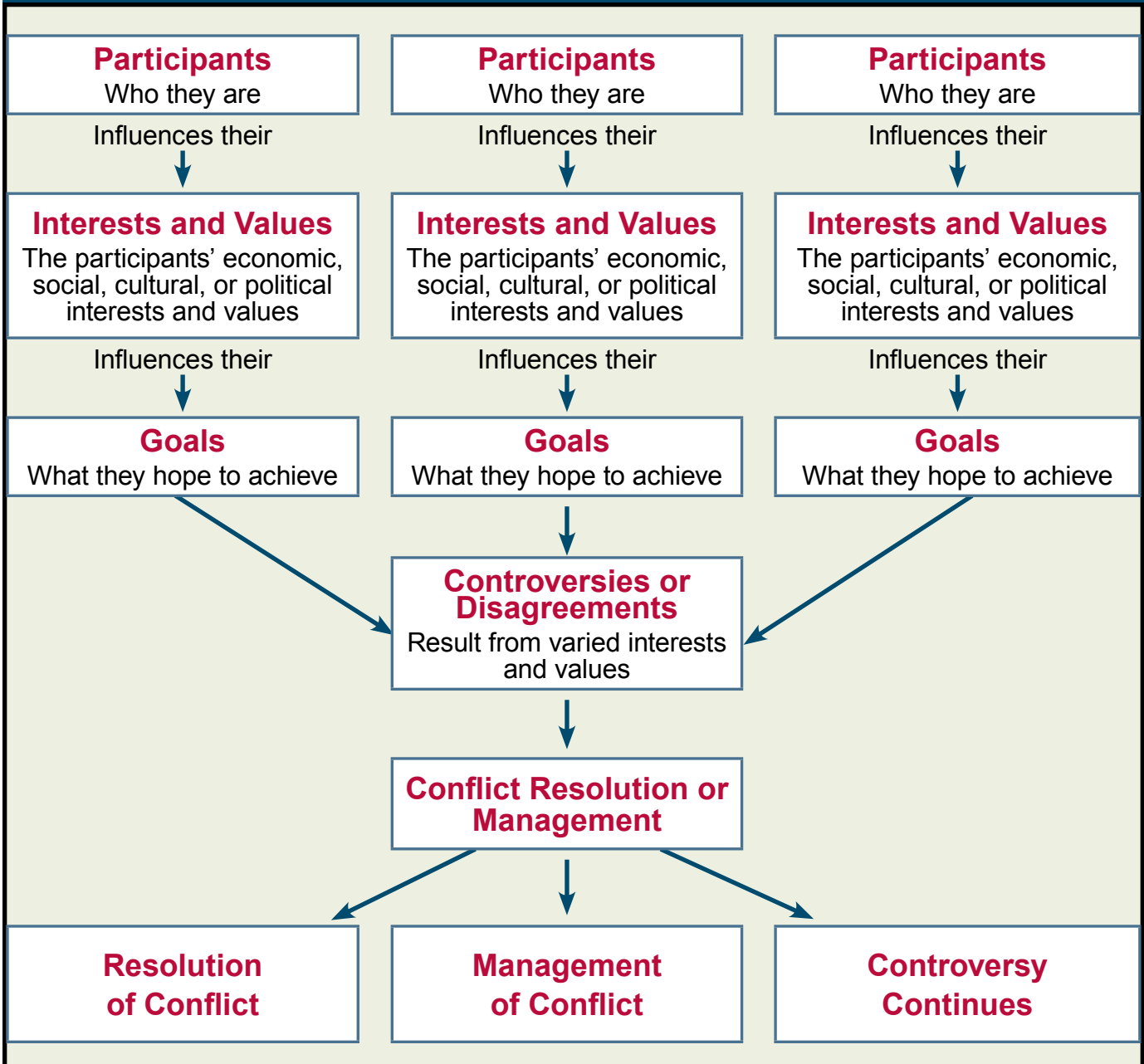
**Trade-off:** Something of value sacrificed or given up in order to get something else of value.

**Valuing:** To estimate or assign the worth, usefulness, or importance of something to human beings.

**Willingness to pay:** The amount a person is willing to pay or give up in order to make something possible.



## VA #3 Controversy Analysis Model



## VA #4 Healthy Forests Initiative Analysis

Participant #1:	Participant #2:	Participant #3:	Participant #4:	Participant #5:
Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓
Interests and Values	Interests and Values	Interests and Values	Interests and Values	Interests and Values
Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓	Influences their ↓
Goals	Goals	Goals	Goals	Goals
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Controversies or Disagreements</b></p> </div>				

## VA #5 Tips for Reading Primary Sources 1

### Reading the Document

- Treat the document as a piece of evidence in an investigation (remember that you are the detective).
- Think about what you are reading—ask yourself questions as you go.
- Do not take things at face value—read between the lines.

### Understanding the Context

- What are the qualifications of the author for writing about this topic?
- Who is the audience for this piece? How do you think the audience influenced what the author said?
- What does the author hope to accomplish? Is he or she trying to convince, entertain, provide factual information, or present multiple viewpoints?



## VA #6 Tips for Reading Primary Sources 2

### Looking for Clues

- Do the facts and opinions expressed seem to fit the time in history when this was written?
- Does the author do a good job of providing clear, factual information to support the points he or she makes?
- Are any facts or important perspectives left out? Do you think they were left out intentionally or does he or she not know about them? Where could you find them?

### Studying and Summarizing the Evidence

- Determine where this material fits in your overall understanding of the topic. Describe any patterns or relationships you see.
- Assess the overall trustworthiness and reliability of the information. Do you believe it? If not, why?
- Create a list of questions that still need to be investigated.

## VA #7 Advocacy in the Redwoods

**C** = Conservation Advocate

**PR** = Property Rights Advocate

**Other** = Business or Other Advocate

C	PR	Other	Group	Interests	Goals





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